FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 039 *27 February 1985*

ARGENTINA

Foreign Officials Visit En Route to Uruguay B 1
El Salvador's Tenorio Interviewed B 1
Tenorio Meets Caputo B 1
Nicaragua's D'Escoto Remarks B 2
USSR's Yazkuliyev Makes Statement B 2
Borras Discusses Trials, Budget, Subversion B 3
Peronists Demand Report on Walters Visit B 3
Government Denies Visit B 4
Iglesias-Led Peronist Group Calls for Elections B 4
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 23 Feb]
Factions Fail To Reconcile B 4
Former President Videla Refuses To Testify B 5
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 22 Feb]
Massera Uses Same Strategy B 5
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 23 Feb]

BOLIVIA

Minister Warns of Military Intervention C 1
Mineworkers March on La Paz C 1
COB in Permanent Session C 1
Ministers Press Conference C 2
Information Minister on 'Leftist Conspiracy' C 3
Electoral Court Gets Funds, Begins Registration C 4
Briefs: Aeronautics Under Secretary Resigns; C 4
New La Paz Mayor

BRAZIL

Paris Club Suspends Debt Renegotiation Talks D 1
Intelligence Service To Respect Privacy D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 22 Feb]
PMDB Invites Chile's Valdes to Inauguration D 2
Strikes Threatened at Start of Neves' Term D 2
[LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST 26 Feb]
Government Official Reacts to U.S. Drug Report D 3

CHILE

Costa Rica's Monge Stops En Route to Montevideo E 1
UK Foreign Office Envoy Arrives in Santiago E 1
Junta Member Matthei Receives PRC Delegation E 1
Finance Minister Announces Peso Devaluation E 1
Subversive School Discovered in Valparaiso E 2

COLOMBIA

Ramirez, Costa Rica's Gutierrez Meet in San Andres F 1
3,000 Peasants Occupy Town; EPL To Meet Officials F 1
EPL Guerrilla Killed in Cordoba Department F 2
Briefs: Agreement With Venezuela; Drop in Public Investment; Scientific Research Program; Land Reform Chief F 2

PARAGUAY

PRLA's Laino Plans To Return From Exile 9 March H 1

PERU

Belaunde Confirms Resignation of Health Minister J 1
AP Candidate Alva Says APRA Manipulates Polls J 1
Over 1,200 Policemen Discharged for Corruption J 1
Port Workers End National Strike, Return To Work J 1
Briefs: Fuel Alcohol Production J 1

URUGUAY

Blanco Party Promoting Shultz-Ortega Meeting [Managua Radio Sandino Network] K 1
Costa Rican President Arrives for Inauguration K 1
Courts Decree Early Release of 22 Prisoners K 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

BELIZE

Esquivel on Request for UK Troop Commitment P 1

COSTA RICA

Monge To Meet Leaders at Uruguayan Inauguration P 1
Informer Explains Alleged Sandinist Spy Network [LA PRENSA LIBRE 19 Feb] P 2

EL SALVADOR

Sugarcane Transporters Working; Traffic Flowing [EL DIARIO DE HOY 24 Feb] P 4
Treasury Police To Begin Civic Plan for Youth [EL MUNDO 23 Feb] P 4

NICARAGUA

Tirado Criticizes U.S.; Urges Workers To Join MPS P 5
Ortega Holds 'Frank' Meeting With U.S. Bishops P 5
Miskito Deputy on Misurasata-Government Talks P 6
Government, Others on Productive Sector Meeting P 6
Dialogue To Continue P 6
PSN Seeks Better Conditions [LA PRENSA 23 Feb] P 6
PLI Complains About FSLN's Role [LA PRENSA 23 Feb] P 7
FDN 'Strategic Command' Statement on Struggle [Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE 25 Feb] P 7
FDN Spokesman Montalvan Criticizes Government [San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL] P 8

CUBA

Bulgarian Minister Karamanev Arrives in Havana Q 1
Mexico's Foreign Secretary Begins Visit Q 1
Rodriguez, Cabrizas Meet Japanese Delegation Q 1
French Labor Leader Krasuki Receives Decoration Q 2
Lebanese Communist Notes Expulsion of U.S. Q 2
Commentary Assesses Thatcher's U.S. Visit Q 2
Commentary Views U.S.-Mexican Border Situation Q 3
Lezcano Presides Over Port Workers Meeting Q 5

CARIBBEAN

Leaders Focus on Political Issues at Summit S 1
UK To Build Coast Guard Shore Facilities S 2

BARBADOS

Opposition Leader Barrow Refuses To Resign S 2

GRENADA

Government Taking Steps To Return Cuban Plane S 2
Government May Lease State-Owned Farms S 3
Trial of 19 Charged With Killing Bishop Postponed S 3

JAMAICA

Seaga Plans More Dialogue With Trade Unions S 4

GUYANA

Effects of Falling British Pound Discussed T 1
GDR Delegation To Arrive for Talks on Trade T 1

SURINAME

Government Considers Actions Against Netherlands U 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

MEXICO

Cotton To Be Exchanged for Yugoslav Products V 1

PANAMA

Guatemala's Mejia Victores Meets With Gen Noriega V 1
[CRITICA 26 Feb]
Envoy Signs UN Convention Against Torture V 1
[LA REPUBLICA 25 Feb]

FOREIGN OFFICIALS VISIT EN ROUTE TO URUGUAY

El Salvador's Tenorio Interviewed

PA262205 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1424 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Feb (EFE) -- Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio has said that he is confident that the Contadora Group's peacemaking efforts can prevent the Central American conflict from leading to armed confrontation. He made the statement to the daily LA NACION, adding that "Contadora is in a phase of renewal that will prove fruitful if Central America advances it."

Today Tenorio began a 24-hour state visit to Buenos Aires, during which he will meet with Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo.

He stated that the Contadora Group has not lost its initiative, as some sectors have insinuated. "The efforts conducted by other countries are highly commendable. However, we believe that the Central American countries should actively participate in the discussions," he stressed.

Referring to the presumed support by Sandinists of the Salvadoran guerrilla movement, Tenorio said: "We have no tangible proof of this, only circumstantial evidence."

He announced that he has invited the Argentine Government to appoint observers for the upcoming elections in El Salvador. At the same time he also extended similar invitations to two private citizens: Ernesto Sabato and Nobel peace laureate Adolfo Perez Esquivel.

Foreign Minister Tenorio will leave for Montevideo, Uruguay tomorrow leading the Salvadoran delegation to the presidential inauguration of Julio Maria Sanguinetti.

Tenorio Meets Caputo

PY262106 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1539 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Feb (TELAM) -- Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio today stated that there will be no generalized war in Central America, although there are some isolated incidents such as that between Costa Rica and Nicaragua over the full implementation of the right to asylum.

Tenorio made this statement after a meeting with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, during which he explained that he is visiting Argentina at the special invitation of the Argentine Government to talk with President Alfonsin, Vice President Victor Martinez, and Foreign Minister Caputo, to whom he expresses his gratitude for Argentine cooperation, especially in the economic and political fields.

Tenorio, who arrived on Saturday, is making an official 2-day visit and will continue on to Montevideo, where he will attend the transfer of presidential powers on 1 March in the Oriental Republic of Uruguay.

Tenorio stated: We believe that the support of a respectable and respected democracy such as that of Argentina is a guarantee of a government system which will allow the functioning of a pluralist society in a state of law.

Asked about the activities of the Salvadoran guerrillas, Tenorio stated that the subversive elements have tried to sabotage the electoral processes but always with negative results. He said that the Salvadoran democracy will continue its renewal process for the self-defense of democracy, aware that Central America is a difficult zone, but I am optimistic and I believe we are handling the situation, he added.

Regarding the actions of the Contadora Group, Tenorio stated that it can yield fruit. Regarding the possible mediation of the Catholic Church in Central American conflicts, Tenorio discarded this possibility. In conclusion, he defined himself as a sort of advance man for his country's president, Napoleon Duarte, who will travel to Argentina within the next 3 months.

Nicaragua's D'Escoto Remarks

PY270222 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0125 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Feb (NA) -- After arriving in Buenos Aires tonight on a private visit en route to Montevideo to attend the inauguration of President-elect Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto accused the United States Government of "trying to make the world propitious for the application of the law of the jungle by violating each and every principle of civilized coexistence among nations." He then called for Latin American solidarity to avoid worsening the tension in Central America.

The Nicaraguan foreign minister said that President Alfonsin will meet with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega in Montevideo, and that Ortega will ask Alfonsin to intercede with the United States to avoid creating further tension in the conflictive Central American area.

D'Escoto also said that his country is willing "to negotiate directly today" with the United States "and to have a civilized coexistence under the rules of international law with that country, but it seems that President Reagan regards himself as a superman capable of bending the will of any people anywhere in the world."

The Nicaraguan foreign minister denied the existence of divisions within his country's government. He asserted that the only possible solution for Central America can be found through direct negotiations between the United States and Nicaragua.

USSR's Yazkuliyev Makes Statement

PY260025 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2239 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Feb (TELAM) -- Upon arriving in Buenos Aires on his way to the Uruguayan presidential inauguration of President-elect Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Bally Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, has stated that Argentine-Soviet relations fortunately remain normal [estan felizmente en pie]. Yazkuliyev, who will remain in Argentina until tomorrow, read the press a prepared statement and said that bilateral relations with our country will continue developing for the benefit of both countries. "Argentina and the Soviet Union," he said, "have the common aspiration of cooperating for the benefit of the two countries, and in this sense, we are aware of the constant progress in the different aspects of our relations."

Yazkuliyev is one of the 16 vice presidents of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, which is second in rank to Chairman Konstantin Chernenko.

BORRAS DISCUSSES TRIALS, BUDGET, SUBVERSION

PY260234 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2325 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Feb (NA) -- Defense Minister Raul Borras this afternoon held a "frank and straightforward" meeting with the generals on active duty throughout the country. Among the issues discussed were the trial of the members of the military juntas that governed between 1976 and 1983 for human rights violation, the military budget, and the possibility of a subversive resurgence, on which Borras stated that guerrillas have no chance of operating in Argentina. Military sources have revealed that the meeting was described in general as "satisfactory," and that the issue of the trial of the former commanders was presented by the minister and no questions were asked.

The generals met today from 0900 to 1300 to listen to "the orientations of the military year" issued by Army Chief of Staff General Ricardo Pianta. A recess was then called until 1600, at which time the minister arrived.

Borras noted that he is aware that there are Army officers who are concerned over the trials of the former commanders for the outrages committed in the antisubversive struggle. He stated that he wanted to take the lead and explain the official policy on this issue. The defense minister stated that in no way will the trial be turned into an overall judgment of the military institutions and that the government will do its utmost to ensure that "things do not go off course."

It has been learned that Borras stated that thanks to the official policy on this matter there are no military men detained in Argentina other than the members of the military juntas that governed the country.

The minister was also questioned on reports stating that subversive organizations could be active in the country. In this regard, Borras reacted energetically, stating that the reports issued by the intelligence services were categorical in stating that there is no subversive organization that is capable of or preparing to act in Argentina. It has been leaked that the minister urged the generals to immediately send him any report on the possibility of a guerrilla action in the country and that he revealed that the government has a clear-cut position regarding this matter.

Concerning the budget, the minister asked for "effort and imagination" to reach the end of the year with the allocations allotted within the scheme of improving the public image of the Armed Forces. In this regard, and although he did not make any commitments, Borras advanced his concern over the salaries being earned by the lower echelons of the military, especially officers ranking from captain downward and the noncommissioned officers. He also discussed the possibility that as the year goes by those salaries may be improved.

The military sources stressed that the atmosphere at the meeting was "cordial." This is the first official meeting Borras has attended since he underwent a lung operation in December 1984.

PERONISTS DEMAND REPORT ON WALTERS VISIT

PY262012 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1203 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Feb (NA) -- Three Peronist deputies have proposed that the Chamber of Deputies submit a request for information to the executive branch asking it to confirm or deny the news report that in January U.S. General Vernon Walters traveled to Argentina and that he held meetings with military chiefs, including some former members of military juntas that ruled the country between 1976 and 1983.

The proposal for a request for information has been submitted by Miguel Unamuno, Hector Maya, and Roberto Garcia, who claim that the executive branch must state "whether it is aware of the presence of Gen Walters in the country" and "whether it is aware that the foreign military officer arrived aboard a U.S. military plane which landed at an Argentine military airfield." The proposal further asks "whether or not it is true that the U.S. general met in our country with Army chiefs" and whether he held meetings with former members of the juntas that ruled Argentina between 1976 and 1983. The three deputies also ask in their proposal whether Walters entered the country without the knowledge of the executive branch and of the defense, foreign, and interior ministers. The proposal finally recalls that Walters was once linked to the CIA, which carried out operations against Argentina during the Malvinas war. In their proposal for a request for information, the Peronist deputies state that if it is true that Walters was in Argentina, the event "is extremely serious," because he reportedly landed at a military airfield without the knowledge of the authorities who would then be facing coupist tendencies "encouraged by agents of the financial establishment." The report on Walters' presence in Argentina was published on Sunday by a metropolitan morning newspaper.

Government Denies Visit

PY262238 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2120 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 26 Feb (EFE) -- The Argentine Government today denied a report that U.S. General Vernon Walters allegedly visited a military detachment near Buenos Aires on 20 January. Argentine Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli today categorically denied the alleged trip reported by Peronist deputies, who stated that Walters reportedly met with a group of retired Argentine officers. Denying the report, Troccoli stated that a high-ranking official such as Walters should visit us through the main door in a legal fashion. Nevertheless, neither the San Martin Palace nor the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires has issued any comment on the report. According to reports granted by the opposition legislators, the secret visit took place during the second half of January 1985, by 20 January.

IGLESIAS-LED PERONIST GROUP CALLS FOR ELECTIONS

PY231730 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Feb 85 p 1

[Excerpts] (NA-DYN) -- The rival Peronist factions were busy fixing their positions yesterday in the wake of Isabel Peron's resignation as party president and getting ready for next Monday's court summons to try to reach a settlement on their mutual claims as legal representatives of the party.

Meanwhile, the Peronist Buenos Aires provincial party council, chaired by Herminio Iglesias, announced it was calling for direct-vote internal elections within 120 days, even though they claim their term expires in August, but said they would need the backing of dissident councilmen in order to have the two-thirds necessary to amend the bylaws, since they only have about half the votes.

Factions Fail To Reconcile

PY260251 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Feb (DYN) -- The reconciliation hearing called for by Judge Juan Fegoli on the internal conflict of the Justicialist Party has failed because the two sectors into which the organization is divided maintained their position.

The legal representative of the board elected in Rio Hondo, Carlos Corach, stated that he rejected the possibility expressed by prosecutor Daniel St Jean of making proposals for the unity of the party. He added that "now we can only wait for a decision by the judge in a period of no longer than 10 days." Jose Vernet lamented, however, the renewal faction's unwillingness to reach an agreement, and added: "We are willing to accept any mediation for the unity of Peronism."

FORMER PRESIDENT VIDELA REFUSES TO TESTIFY

PY222048 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 22 Feb 85 p 7

[Text] (NA) -- Former de facto President (retired) General Jorge Rafael Videla kept silent for almost two hours while members of the Federal Appeals Court questioned him yesterday on human rights abuses committed during the so-called dirty war against subversion at the time he was head of the military junta, court sources reported. Retired Admiral Emilio Massera is scheduled to appear today, and on subsequent days retired Admiral Armando Lambruschini, retired Brigadier Ramon Agosti and retired General Roberto Viola, who are being held in Penal Unit 22 near the central courts and have all been summoned by prosecutor Julio Strassera to answer charges on about 700 cases of violations of human rights.

Videla had already announced his decision not to testify before the civilian court in a letter sent to the judges on Wednesday, whereby he declared not to recognize that court's right to handle his case, saying they had "no jurisdiction or legal authority to judge" him. Lambruschini made a similar announcement yesterday, stating in his letter to the appeals court he had "lost all confidence" and had come to the conclusion that "nothing I say or do can influence the course of this process." The former Navy commander requested not to be taken to testify "so that one of the steps may be economized on and I can avoid being inconvenienced." Viola and Massera has both announced they will adopt a similar stance.

The nine former members of the three military juntas which governed Argentina between 1976 and 1983 were arrested shortly after President Raul Alfonsin took office in December 1983, and a presidential decree ordered they were to undergo a trial to determine their responsibility for disappearances and abuses committed by paramilitary forces during the military rule. The former commanders-in-chief were originally to be tried by the Armed Forces Supreme Court, but the cases passed to the civilian courts when the military tribunal declared they had been unable to reach a verdict within the specified time limit.

Reliable sources reported that former Economy Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz visited the former commander-in-chief yesterday, allegedly spending the best part of the time with General Videla, and during the afternoon they received a visit from General Horacio Tomas Liendo.

Massera Uses Same Strategy

PY231717 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 23 Feb 85 p 9

[Text] (DYN) -- Retired Admiral and former Navy Commander-in-Chief Emilio Massera yesterday refused to testify before the Federal Appeals Court, following the same strategy used on Thursday by former President Jorge Videla. Massera -- who along with the other nine members of the first three military process juntas are being tried for responsiblity in the human rights abuses committed during the so-called dirty war against subversion -- used his right to refuse to add to his earlier testimony. Federal prosecutor Julio Strassera received court permission to extend the questioning period, but so far those officers who have appeared in court -- Massera, Videla and former Navy Commander-in-Chief Armando Lambruschini -- have refused to add to their previous statements.

MINISTER WARNS OF MILITARY INTERVENTION

PY262334 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2254 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] La Paz, 26 Feb (EFE) -- The Bolivian Government today warned the unions that the Armed Forces will intervene if the atmosphere of social unrest being promoted by ultra-leftist parties which have infiltrated into the leadership of unions persists. Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata today issued a harsh warning to the mineworkers, who today demanded the resignation of President Hernan Siles Zuazo. Information Minister Mario Rueda Pana said that the scheduled miners march on La Paz is being instigated by groups of leaders who are seeking a confrontation with security forces to lay the groundwork for a possible disruption of the democratic process.

Mineworkers March on La Paz

PY270019 Paris AFP in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] La Paz, 26 Feb (AFP) -- Hundreds of mineworkers from several parts of Bolivia today converged on this capital and gathered at the National Congress building, where they called a hunger strike to protest the economic measures dictated by President Hernan Siles Zuazo on 9 February, it was reported here today. The march on the city of La Paz is taking place at a time when Information Minister Mario Rueda has charged union leader Juan Lechin Oquendo and Trotskiyite groups with seeking to destabilize the democratic process.

COB in Permanent Session

PY270137 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Report from Bolivian Labor Federation, COB, headquarters by reporter Omar Velazquez]

[Text] The meeting held by the COB Executive Board and several national labor organizations has just ended. Walter Delgadillo, COB secretary general, will now tell us the conclusions reached at the meeting:

[Begin recording] In the meeting of the COB Executive Committee and the national labor unions we first decided to ratify all the decisions reached at our last national COB meeting. All the national and departmental labor organizations are charged with promoting the mobilization of workers, for the following goals:

1. To permanently defend labor union rights, as decided at the COB congress; and 2. I, and the workers in general, believe that at this stage we should face the urgent problem of the lack of a supply of staples.

Therefore, the COB will continue trying to solve this supply problem through the direct participation of the workers. However, the COB demands that appropriate authorities immediately solve this problem. We agree that, considering this situation, it is necessary to establish strict control over the prices of staples. Regarding the salary problem, we demand that the sliding pay scale be put into force immediately, and we maintain our support for the ongoing struggle for a minimum wage. We have also decided that the COB Executive Committee and the national labor unions shall remain in permanent session. [end recording]

Ministers Press Conference

PY270155 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] The government has made a dramatic call on the population to maintain peace, tranquillity, and the democratic process, which are being seriously threatened by reactionary forces encouraged from abroad. A press conference has been held at the Foreign Ministry, where five ministers tried to explain to the people the difficulties the country is now experiencing.

Foreign Minister Edgar Camacho Umiste denounced the existence of forces that have been completely identified that are acting both inside and outside the country to force a change of government. [Camacho Umiste recording indistinct]

The foreign minister said that there are forces that are enemies of the democratic process both inside and outside the country. These forces, according to him, have been fully identified, but he gave no further details, adding only that in due time will the appropriate announcements be made.

The interior minister was more explicit, pointing out some of the perils threatening the democratic process and the Popular and Democratic Unity government. Noting that no plotter reveals his plans, Minister Alvarez Plata made comments that led the press to suspect that the government has in the past few hours uncovered a coup attempt, which cannot be clearly discerned because few details have been furnished. [Plata recording indistinct]

You have just heard the Alvarez Plata recording, which was followed by a recording by Defense Minister Colonel Manuel Cardenas Malo, retired, who reiterated that the rumors of a military uprising are totally false. What is intended, Minister Cardenas Mallo said, is to create artificial conditions to hamper the electoral process. He added that some political groups are desperate and that they are trying to find support within the Armed Forces. He also referred to the economic crisis that has developed within the Armed Forces, because there is evidence of discontent over salaries, particularly among the young officers. [Cardenas Mallo recording indistinct]

Planning and Coordination Minister Freddy Justiniano also participated in the press conference. He said that the crisis is the aftermath of past regimes, particularly that of General Hugo Banzer Suarez. He also defended the economic measures adopted by the government on 9 February. He tried to convince the people that the economic situation cannot be a destabilizing factor in the democratic process. [Justiniano recording indistinct]

Minister Justiniano affirmed that the government acts with a great sense of responsibility in dealing with the foreign debt problem. [Justiniano recording indistinct]

The information minister also said that the country is being threatened both from inside and outside by forces that have been duly identified by the government, forces that are intent on disrupting the democratic process.

INFORMATION MINISTER ON 'LEFTIST CONSPIRACY'

PY262010 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] The miners' request that President Siles Zuazo step down is part of a maneuver concocted by Juan Lechin Oquendo, who is venting his old hatred for the president of the nation. Lechin's attitude is supported by small groups of ultraleftist leaders who are seeking to plunge the democratic process into chaos and anarchy. These are the conclusions one can draw from the analysis of Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena, who spent the morning working on the problem.

This piece of news brought forth a reaction from the information minister, who said that the ultraleft is trying to abort the upcoming elections slated for this June. The minister said that the groups that want to thwart the government's efforts to hold elections are afraid that the rightwing parties could win the elections, and they have betrayed themselves publicly.

Following is a recording of Minister Rueda Pena's remarks as part of a dialectical method:

[Begin recording] I feel that circumstances rule out the use of euphemisms. One must speak to the people in a straightforward and courageous manner. The ultraleft has a plan to abort the general elections scheduled for June 1985. This plan is motivated by fear of an alleged and highly improbably electoral victory by the right-wing parties. They are panicking over the certainty that they will play a ridiculous role in the elections by revealing their status as the lowest minorities.

Briefly, this plan is aimed at creating a state of social and political upheaval of such gravity that will not only prevent the holding of elections but also will cause the violent ouster of President Siles Zuazo's democratic regime.

The first phase of this plan has failed because of the lack of popular support. The ultraleftist groups that claim to represent the COB failed to execute their scheduled occupation of strategic state-owned corporations, which means that their plan to take over the state from within has failed.

In view of this failure, they are now engaged in organizing other types of direct action by the masses. They are announcing the mobilization of housewives and that contingents of miners will arrive in La Paz. They are organizing marches and street demonstrations, which could eventually develop into violence and disorder. Meanwhile, based on exaggerated claims, the COB is making a number of salary demands, the fulfillment of which would make the national inflation rate soar.

The true objective is a general strike that would paralyze the country and create a severe shortage of foodstuffs, thus giving rise to much speculation, all of which would create such a critical political situation that it would necessarily provoke use of force against the government.

We believe that the true working class, the true COB, is not involved in these plans. The authors' intentions have been apparent more than enough recently. The strategy of seeking a solution in disaster is inspired by Juan Lechin Oquendo who, because of an old personal hatred of Siles Zuazo, swore in October 1982 to overthrow him. The other [words indistinct] labor anarchists committed to sabotaging the coming elections, even if it will mean killing democracy first.

One must be aware of the following information related to the nation's social structure: The working class amounts to 8 percent of the Bolivian population and within this 8 percent the miners only total 2 percent, approximately 60,000 mineworkers. Out of these 60,000 mineworkers, the most generous estimate is that 2,500 belong to ultraleftist parties and to Juan Lechin's party, the Revolutionary Party of the Nationalist Left. This information shows us how a labor leadership with such a narrow social and polticial base is trying to drag the majority of the nation's workers into adventures whose consequences will be extremely serious for both the country and themselves.

In sum, what we have here are three or four leaders, who barely represent a few thousand Bolivians, designing and executing a plan which goes against the political will of 5 million Bolivians who want to preserve democracy and decide their future at the free elections slated for June 1985.

This democratic government is convinced that the will of a few can do nothing against the position, the feelings, and the democratic convictions of the people as a whole. [end recording]

ELECTORAL COURT GETS FUNDS, BEGINS REGISTRATION

PY261840 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] The National Electoral Court has announced that in accordance with the court's timetable, the citizenry can start to register for the elections as of 15 March. This announcement was made by Guillermo Davalos, a member of the Electoral Court, who has been working on the registration program since the Electoral Court received funds from the executive branch.

He referred to the work being carried out by the court in accordance with the court's timetable for the elections scheduled for 16 June.

[Begin recording] The National Electoral Court is now working in accordance with the established timetable which sets the beginning of the registration for 15 March, that is, the registration of all citizens who can vote. To carry out this registration the Electoral Court is taking all the necessary measures, because we already have the necessary financial support, as the executive branch yesterday provided the court with a large sum of the Electoral Court budget. [end recording]

BRIEFS

AERONAUTICS UNDER SECRETARY RESIGNS -- Aeronautics Minister Brigadier General Arnez Camacho, retired, yesterday announced that the strike scheduled for today by the Lloyd Bolivian Airline [LAB] workers has been called off since Aeronautics Under Secretary Fernando Sanchez Pena has presented his resignation, as the workers demanded. LAB workers had accused Fernandez of arbitrary actions. [Summary] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 7 Feb 85 p 1 PY]

NEW LA PAZ MAYOR -- Lieutenant Colonel Hernan Gallardo assumed yesterday his duties as the mayor of La Paz. He replaces Colonel Jose Montano. [Summary] [La Paz CADENA PANAMERICANA in Spanish 1130 GMT 15 Feb 85 PY]

PARIS CLUB SUSPENDS DEBT RENEGOTIATION TALKS

PY270204 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0119 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] Brasilia, 26 Feb (EFE) -- It was learned here today that the West European government creditors of Brazil today suspended the talks on the renegotiation of $8 billion of Brazil'a debt.

According to local financial sources, the so-called Paris Club decided to suspend the negotiations with the Brazilian Government until the resumption of talks with the IMF.

The IMF has suspended the renegotiation of the eighth letter of intent with the Brazilian Government because the latter did not meet some of the goals set for 1984.

This IMF decision was reported 2 weeks ago and has had a negative impact on the renegotiation of the Brazilian foreign debt with the private creditor banks.

Talks on rescheduling the payment of $45.3 billion have been conditioned to an agreement with the IMF. It will be up to the Tancredo Neves government, which will assume power on 15 March, to resume the contacts with the IMF within the period established, until 31 May.

Brazil is one of the developing nations with the largest accrued foreign debt, totaling $104 billion.

INTELLIGENCE SERVICE TO RESPECT PRIVACY

PY261330 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 22 Feb 85 p 4

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro -- One of the main objectives of the National Intelligence Service [SNI] during Tancredo Neves' government will be to enforce the principle of respect for the citizen's right to privacy. This was reported yesterday by a high-ranking military source who also confirmed that General Reynaldo Mello de Almeida has given into pressure by Aureliano Chaves, president of the Liberal Front Party and vice president of the Republic, to accept the SNI presidency.

Gen Mello's decision to go to Brasilia to ask Aureliano Chaves to withdraw the invitation for him to assume the SNI presidency caused, in the past few days, a real mobilization of officers trying to suggest other names.

They did so aware of the fact that Gen Mello had decided to suggest the name of General Octavio Costa who represents a liberal line of the Armed Forces and who supports the reestablishment of the National Intelligence System [SISNI], based on a classified document, the National Intelligence Plan.

The reorganization of the SNI will imply a reduction of its power, and the tendency is to transfer to the Federal Police (which will also be reorganized) a substantial part of its duties. The problem of the SNI growing too large will also be discussed in depth. Its size causes institutional conflicts, because each ministry has a security and intelligence division which has to report both to the minister and to the chief of the SNI. The same thing occurs with state enterprises which have their own security and intelligence advisory departments.

Colonel Sebastiao Ferreira Chaves has reached the point of stating that the security and intelligence divisions and the security and intelligence advisory departments are "featherbedding outfits which the country can do without, even for economic reasons."

PMDB INVITES CHILE'S VALDES TO INAUGURATION

PY250146 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1729 GMT 24 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 24 Feb (EFE) -- Gabriel Valdes, president of the Chilean Christian Democracy and one of the Pinochet regime's principal opponents, has been invited to attend the inauguration of Brazilian President-elect Tancredo Neves, according to an announcement made here today.

The invitation was made by the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party (PMDB), the party led by Tancredo Neves.

The initiative seems to be the first demonstration of the intransigent support promised by the next Brazilian president for the Chilean democratic opposition.

President Pinochet has appointed his labor minister, Alfonso Reyes de la Plata, to represent the military regime at the inauguration of the new Brazilian president on 15 March.

In his first public declaration following his election, Neves on 16 January expressed his concern over the Chilean situation and announced his support of the democratic opposition. Neves' statement was so blunt then that the press assistants to the president-elect changed the phrase intransigent support to total support in the transcript of his public statement.

STRIKES THREATENED AT START OF NEVES' TERM

PY262302 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 26 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] Rio de Janeiro (Daily Post) -- President-elect Tancredo Neves could face a wave of strikes when he takes office in three weeks time, labor leaders warned over the weekend.

Many powerful groups have pay claims due March and April and are demanding shorter hours and more pay to match the 232 percent inflation.

"We accept the new government will face a series of problems and that an immediate (social and economic) transformation is not possible," said Jair Meneguelli, president of the Sao Bernardo region metalworkers union, which represents most auto industry workers.

But workers expect significant if not profound changes and if this hope is frustrated there will be strikes breaking out all over the country," he said.

The metalworkers have a pay hike to cover inflation due April 1, plus a reduction in the working week from 48 to 40 hours without loss of pay. Employers have said the hours reduction was not possible.

Other major groups with claims due in the first weeks of the new government include sugar-cane cutters, orange pickers, and shoe makers in the interior of Sao Paulo State and bank workers in the city itself.

All these groups have a recent record of organized and sometimes violent strikes.

Many labor unions have been weakened under the two decades of military rule as the government ousted elected leaders and appointed its own administrators.

But union leader Gilmar dos Santos said even traditionally docile groups such as the mail workers could now break their no-strike history.

"With the change in government, the postal employees feel more at liberty to make demands," he said. "Up till now, the mail service was dominated by colonels from the Army Intelligence Branch."

Neves, a 74-year-old moderate backed by a loose left-right coalition, has asked labor and employees to agree to a "social pact" covering the first months of his administration while he grapples with rising inflation and the $100 billion foreign debt.

But moderate leader Joaquim Andrade of Sao Paulo city metalworkers said this was a non-starter if it meant more sacrifice for workers.

The VEJA newsweekly said Neves would offer labor leaders policies stemming rural exodus, which hikes urban unemployment, plus the promise of greater union freedom as the "carrot" for a no-strike deal.

Economists advising Neves suggested allocating $3.5 billion, 1.5 percent of gross national product, to 1985 programs creating bottom-rung jobs and easing hunger.

Neves takes over March 15 from president Joao Figueiredo as first civilian president since the 1964 coup d'etat.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL REACTS TO U.S. DRUG REPORT

PY270257 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Brazil does not accept censure or warning, especially in the area of drug use and trafficking, the president of the Federal Drug Control Council and Secretary General of the Justice Ministry, Arthur de Castilho Neto, has said in reaction to a U.S. Congress report criticizing the actions of the Brazilian Government to prevent and repress drug trafficking that was made public on 25 February in Washington.

He recalled that the breakup of the U.S. and Italian mafia was only possible thanks to the cooperation rendered by the Brazilian Federal Police. He noted that in international meetings, Brazil has always defended the position that every country is conscious of its problems and the way they can be confronted. Castilho also rejected the criticism of the amount of funds the Brazilian Government allocates in the fight against the use and trafficking of drugs, but admitted that only the overall objective of the project has not been pursued because of the lack of funds.

COSTA RICA'S MONGE STOPS EN ROUTE TO MONTEVIDEO

PA262203 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge stopped over in Chile for about half an hour en route to Montevideo. Monge was welcomed at the Santiago International Airport by Chilean Deputy Foreign Minister Lieutenant General Sergio Covarrubias and one of the Chilean regime's aides-de-camp. Later, Monge left for Montevideo, where he will attend the inauguration of Julio Maria Sanguinetti as the new Uruguayan president. The ceremony will take place on 1 March.

UK FOREIGN OFFICE ENVOY ARRIVES IN SANTIAGO

PY261926 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1745 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Report from Arturo Merino Benitez Airport by Hugo Reyes]

[Text] Upon his arrival at Santiago International Airport a few minutes ago, William Harding, British Foreign Office under secretary for Latin American and Asian affairs, expressed his desire to learn firsthand about Chile's economic and political situation. The British official is scheduled to hold meetings tomorrow with President Pinochet, with the finance and interior ministers, and with Deputy Foreign Minister Lieutenant General Sergio Covarrubias. Harding declined to answer a question about alleged Chilean cooperation with Great Britain during the Malvinas war.

JUNTA MEMBER MATTHEI RECEIVES PRC DELEGATION

PY260025 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] General Fernando Matthei has received a PRC delegation which a few days ago visited the Antarctic territory where the first Chinese station has been officially opened. The meeting was held at the Chilean Air Force [FACH] commander in chief's office in the Diego Portales building. The PRC delegation was headed by the PRC ambassador in Santiago, Tang Haiguang. Also present were Admiral Wu Heng, the chief of the expedition, and (Yang Wuyu), deputy chief of the PRC Antarctic expedition. Gen Matthei very cordially welcomed the PRC delegation, stating that he is very satisfied that the FACH is serving as a liaison for operations between the PRC and Chile and that he sincerely expects that this cooperation will last forever.

FINANCE MINISTER ANNOUNCES PESO DEVALUATION

PY270242 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Report by Eduardo Urzua from the Economy Ministry in Santiago]

[Excerpt] Finance Minister Hernan Bucci has announced a 9-percent devaluation of the peso as of tomorrow. He then added that the current economic policies will remain unchanged. Bucci made this statement during a joint press conference that is being held now with Economy Minister Modesto Collados at Collados' office.

Bucci also announced that the government has decided to reduce the import customs duties to 30 percent as of 1 March. He stated that this percentage is adequate to reconcile the long-term prospects of the economy with the short-term requirements, and this has led to the enforcement of this measure.

Afterward, referring to the 9-percent devaluation of the peso that starts tomorrow, Bucci stated that the realistic policy of a high and flexible exchange rate, which is being applied today, will be maintained. He stated, however, that the fluctuation of foreign currencies had to be taken into account in order to arrive at such a decision.

In addition, Minister Bucci announced that in light of the agreement with the IMF, the government, by cutting back on expenses, is planning to reduce the public sector deficit so that it does not exceed 3 percent of the GDP this year. Bucci added that in order to prevent an unlikely delay in the corresponding expansion of the private sector economy, the program with the IMF has been structured so that it includes the possibility of applying an additional fiscal stimulus that is equivalent to 0.5 percent of the GDP, provided that the performance during the first half of the year so advises.

SUBVERSIVE SCHOOL DISCOVERED IN VALPARAISO

PY251934 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] The Carabineros in Valparaiso have released the following communique on the discovery of a political-subversive school:

On the morning of 22 February, when Carabineros of the Quintero police station, on orders from the Quillota Court, were investigating reports of thefts in a house at 1082 Baquedano Street in Quintero, they discovered that a political-subversive school of a socialist trend was operating from the house. A large amount of printed material for teaching subversive activities was confiscated. The following persons were detained in the house: Marcelo Javier Gonzalez Orellana, Juan Bautista Ostes Beltran, Cristian Tomas Batac Parra, Jorge Soto Gutierrez, Roberto Cantino Rojas, Eduardo Daniel Osanton Riquelme, Eduardo Antonio Gonzalez Gonzalez, Miguel Angel Contreras Puelpa, Sergio Andres Huerta Orellana, Jorge Fernando Contreras Tovar, Ignacio Alberto Reyes Urra, Gilberto Soto Maldonado, and Carlos Daniel Godoy Etchegoyen.

In the hours following the detentions the Carabineros continued their investigations in order to locate more people involved in the subversive activities, and those detained were held at the Quintero police barracks. At about 0345 on 22 February, the guards found that the detained Carlos Daniel Godoy Etchegoyen was suffering from respiratory problems. He was taken in an ambulance to Quintero Hospital, but died en route. The Carabineros have ordered an investigation, independent of the military justice trial, to establish beyond any doubt that according to the coroner, the death was caused by a long-standing cardiovascular disease.

It has been fully established that the people who were participating in this subversive school come from various parts of the country and from various professions. Their participation in subversive activities has been clearly proven.

All those detained as well as the material evidence have been put at the disposal of the Second Military Court through the Army and Carabineros prosecutor in Valparaiso.

RAMIREZ, COSTA RICA'S GUTIERREZ MEET IN SAN ANDRES

PA261607 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has met with his Colombian counterpart in San Andres. He said that the Colombian Government has shown understanding about the status of relations between Costa Rica and Nicaragua as a result of the case of Nicaraguan asylum seeker Jose Manuel Urbina Lara. Gutierrez said that Colombia demonstrated its understanding once again during a meeting held with his counterpart in San Andres this weekend. I attended a meeting at the invitation of Colombian Ambassador (Gil Miller Puyo), and Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo was there to talk with me, he said. We analyzed the Central American situation, the status of the conflict with Nicaragua, and the outlook for the Contadora Group.

The Colombian foreign minister told Gutierrez that the Contadora Group will continue to make efforts to find a solution to the conflict between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. However, Gutierrez did not say if a new Contadora Group meeting was discussed or if a date has been set for a visit to the Central American nations by the Contadora deputy foreign ministers.

The Costa Rican foreign minister said that his meeting with Ramirez Ocampo was fruitful because they exchanged views on Contadora and the Central American situation.

3,000 PEASANTS OCCUPY TOWN; EPL TO MEET OFFICIALS

PA260430 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Report by Marino Restrepo Maya]

[Text] Medellin -- The situation in El Bagre municipality, in northeastern Antioquia, has become critical following the occupation of the central area of the town by 3,000 peasants yesterday. It can be said that this town has become isolated by air, land, and river. The airport was taken over yesterday and the peasants detained three aircraft, two of which belong to the Colombian Air Patrol and the other to the Aces enterprise.

Gildardo Correa Toro, mayor of El Bagre, told his radio station that the situation is critical because food is scarce and many women and children might suffer. The mayor appealed to the Red Cross to send personnel and medicine to the site.

Meanwhile, the Antioquia governor and his assistants have met in an effort to resolve the problem. Spokesman for the peasants said that they require the governor's presence to solve the many problems that the peasants have been encountering and that the governor had pledged to solve quickly.

Both military and police authorities have augmented their forces in the area to counter any disruption of public order that may occur.

Also in northeastern Antioquia, three peasants were killed, apparently by a guerrilla group. Gomez Plata and Yolombo authorities are trying to locate the culprits.

It has also been reported in Medellin that the Popular Liberation Army, EPL, awaits the visit of Government Minister Jaime Castro Castro and Governor Alberto Vasquez Restrepo in the next few hours to an as yet unspecified place near the border between Antioquia and Cordoba Departments. There, the EPL will attempt to learn the nature of the return to civilian life proposed to all guerrilla groups by the national government.

EPL GUERRILLA KILLED IN CORDOBA DEPARTMENT

PA260443 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Monteria, Cordoba -- A guerrilla who was a member of the EPL was killed during an armed clash with members of the Junin Battalion near Cienaga de Martinica in Cordoba Department.

According to military spokesmen, the man was accompanied by five other guerrillas, who opened fire on the military patrol as soon as it was sighted. A 20-minute clash ensued.

The body of the guerrilla was taken to the San Jeronimo hospital for identification. The remaining guerrillas fled and efforts are being made to locate them because peasants and merchants have complained that this armed organization has been carrying out extortion in the area.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH VENEZUELA -- Bogota, 11 Feb (AFP) -- Colombia and Venezuela have signed an agreement to improve their scientific and technological capacity in an attempt to increase their economic and social development. The agreement includes exchange of researchers, joint projects, organization of seminars, and exchange of information. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 2331 GMT 11 Feb 85 PA]

DROP IN PUBLIC INVESTMENT -- The Colombian economy grew by 3 percent in 1984, the highest rate in the past 4 years, but public investment dropped by 40 percent in real terms. This drop reflects the government's financing problems. Unemployment continues to be Colombia's main problem; unemployment in the country's four most important cities reached more than 13 percent by the end of 1984. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Feb 85 p 8 A PA]

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH PROGRAM -- Humberto Serna, director general of the Colombian Institute for the Development of Higher Education, has announced to the media that this institute will implement a broad program for scientific research, the acquisition of equipment and laboratories, academic training inside and outside the country, technological projects, and the training of professors to incorporate modern techniques at universities. The program, which started in 1984, will be fully completed in 1985 at a total cost of $67 million, $37 million of which will be supplied by the government while the remaining $30 million will be funds obtained through a credit from the IDB. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 20 Feb 85 p 11 PA]

LAND REFORM CHIEF -- Bogota -- Antonia Gomez Merlano has been appointed general manager of the Colombian Agrarian Reform Institute, to replace Ernesto Munoz Orozco. The appointment was formalized by virtue of Decree 549 of 25 February 1985, signed by President Belisario Betancur and Agriculture Minister Gustavo Castro Guerrero. Until his appointment, Mr Gomez Merlando served as secretary general of the People's Bank. [Summary] [Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Feb 85 PA]

PRLA'S LAINO PLANS TO RETURN FROM EXILE 9 MARCH

PY221540 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1400 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Posadas, 21 Feb (TELAM) -- Domingo Laino, leader of the opposition to General Alfredo Stroessner's government who has been living in exile in Argentina since 1982, has revealed that he intends to return to Paraguay on 9 March in order to work actively but in a nonviolent manner since he has always believed that freedom can be won by peaceful means in Paraguay.

In statements to TELAM, he said that the post-Stroessner era is drawing near in Paraguay for biological reasons and because of the southern cone's political progress. Laino voiced his concern over the possibility that strong pressure groups may try to whitewash the leadership without the people's participation, in other words, Stroessnerism without Stroessner.

The first vice president of the Paraguayan Authentic Liberal Radical Party [PRLA] voiced his confidence that chaos will not come after Stroessner's departure, as many believe. However, deep economic and social changes, which the country requires, will have to be accepted.

Regarding the support which the democratization process in Paraguay could receive from other Latin American countries, Laino stated that, as a politician, I do not want to harbor any great illusions about that. He added: "What really worries me is the organization of people in my country. We want to prevent the cliques at the top from reaching agreements among each other in order to maintain the status quo. We really want the people to have a chance to participate. Therefore, we are now contacting Paraguayan citizens throughout the Alto Parana region, keeping them informed until the right moment comes."

Among the leftist parties, Laino mentioned the Communists, the Febrerista, and Christian Democratic Parties, but he said they were not representative, since the Colorado Party and the PLRA shoulder all the responsibility. In fact, the PLRA represents 90 percent of the electorate.

Referring to corruption in his country, Laino said that in Stroessner's Paraguay anything can be bought for a little money. You can buy anything, from vehicles stolen in Argentina and Brazil and then registered by the government to women, drugs, or safe haven for criminals such as Joseph Mengele, a Nazi known as the Angel of Death, or Claude Ricord, a drug trafficker known in the United Stated as the kingpin of drugs, and others.

The opposition leader concluded: "Corruption in Paraguay is outrageous and is one of the strong pillars that sustains General Stroessner's government, although the peasantry, the middle class, and even a large sector of the Armed Forces have not been stained. Consequently, there are many high-ranking military officers who live simple honest lives, thus we will be able to build a new Paraguay with their participation."

BELAUNDE CONFIRMS RESIGNATION OF HEALTH MINISTER

PY261500 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] During his usual Monday press conference, President Fernando Belaunde confirmed last night that Health Minister Juan Franco Ponce has submitted his resignation and that he will be replaced in March. He also noted that democracy is safe and stable in Peru and that he is certain that on 28 July he will hand over power to his successor.

AP CANDIDATE ALVA SAYS APRA MANIPULATES POLLS

PY261755 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Popular Action [AP] candidate Javier Alva Orlandini said yesterday that at the AP rally scheduled for 28 February, there will be three times as many people as those who attended the American Popular Revolutionary Alliance [APRA] rally.

He added that the AP rally will show that the recently published polls are biased and that they should be investigated by the Interior Ministry, since they intend to manipulate voters.

Alva Orlandini noted that the company in charge of the polls is closely tied to the APRA and that APRA subsidizes it. Alva Orlandini said that the skillful manipulation of the polls has violated all ethics, and since this is illegal, the Interior Ministry should take action to prevent the further manipulation of public opinion.

OVER 1,200 POLICEMEN DISCHARGED FOR CORRUPTION

PY261510 Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Oscar Brush reported yesterday that over 1,200 members of the Peruvian police forces have been discharged in the last few months for their involvement in crimes that have undermined the unity of the police forces. Moreover, he harshly criticized recent incidents in which Peruvian Investigative Police agents were involved, particularly one in which a 10-year-old was shot by a drunken agent.

PORT WORKERS END NATIONAL STRIKE, RETURN TO WORK

PY261320 Lima Television Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Excerpt] About 5,000 workers of the National Port Enterprise of Peru have returned to work after a national strike that lasted approximately 1 week. Today the loading and unloading operations at El Callao port were normal.

BRIEFS

FUEL ALCOHOL PRODUCTION -- Energy and Mines Minister Juan Inchaustegui Vargas yesterday announced that Peru will produce sugarcane alcohol fuel as a substitute for gasoline. Work will start with using 7,000 hectares of sugarcane, which will be processed into alcohol to be mixed with gasoline, as is done in Brazil. The production will go first to the jungle city of Pucallpa. [Excerpt] [Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Feb 85 PY]

BLANCO PARTY PROMOTING SHULTZ-ORTEGA MEETING

PA270000 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Report by ANN correspondent Maria Isabel Pasos from Montevideo -- recorded]

[Text] The Blanco Party is promoting an informal meeting between representatives of Central American countries and the United States, Juan Raul Ferreira, chairman of the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee, announced today. The political meeting would be held in Uruguay with the support and participation of the member countries of the Contadora Group. According to Ferreira, the Blanco Party has suggested to the new government and to other political groups that they help lessen the tension in Central America and seek ways to mediate. The United States would be invited to participate in the dialogue because the Blanco Party considers that it is part of the conflict and cannot be treated as a neutral country which is only trying to mediate, Ferreira said. Ferreira said: The United States is the aggressor and this accusation is not unfounded. It is a fact which has been confirmed and accepted by the U.S. Government, which is supporting the counterrevolution.

Meanwhile, Blanco Party sources have mentioned the possibility of a meeting between George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, and Commander Daniel Ortega, Nicaraguan president. The Uruguayan Senate Foreign Relations Committee would act as a liaison between the U.S. and Nicaraguan delegations to try to promote such a dialogue.

COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR INAUGURATION

PY262232 Paris AFP in Spanish 2043 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Feb (AFP) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge arrived this afternoon in Montevideo to attend the inauguration of Uruguayan President-elect Julio Maria Sanguinetti. Monge and a small delegation arrived at the main Uruguayan airport on board a plane from Buenos Aires. Berta Torrijos, a sister of the late Panamanian ruler Omar Torrijos, arrived on the same plane to attend the inauguration. Shortly after their arrival and after Interim-President Rafael Addiego and National Assembly President Jorge Batlle welcomed them, President Monge and Berta Torrijos went to a downtown hotel in Montevideo.

COURTS DECREE EARLY RELEASE OF 22 PRISONERS

PY262122 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1726 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Montevideo, 26 Feb (EFE) -- Another 22 Uruguayan political prisoners, among them former lawmaker Vladimir Turiansky, have signed their early releases, releases that have been decreed by the military courts. Counting these, 64 releases have been decreed this past week, although less than 10 persons have actually been released. The military courts have not justified the delays, despite the claims repeatedly being made by the Commission of Relatives of Political Prisoners and other groups championing human rights.

On 15 February, upon assuming office after nearly 12 years of dictatorship, Congress demanded the release of Turiansky, who in violation of his immunity was arrested in late October 1975. Vladimir Turiansky, a trade union leader of the outlawed National Convention of Workers and a Communist Party deputy elected in 1971, was sentenced by the military courts to serve 14 years in prison. More than 300 political prisoners, among them 9 antiputschist militarymen and several women, remain in the penitentiaries of the former dictatorship awaiting either their early release or the passage of a bill for a general amnesty, a bill which Congress is currently drafting.

BELIZE

ESQUIVEL ON REQUEST FOR UK TROOP COMMITMENT

FL260020 Bridgetown CANA in English 2328 GMT 25 Feb 85

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 25, CANA -- Belize is seeking a British commitment not to withdraw its 1,800-man garrison from the Central American country before a resolution of its territorial dispute with neighbouring Guatemala, Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel said here today.

but Esquivel told reporters that if the British were to withdraw, it was unlikely that the Belizean Government would attempt to get another country to post soldiers there. In the case of British withdrawal, we would not like to replace them by any other troops for the simple reason that the only troops that could credibly replace them are from the United States, Esquivel said. He feared that American troops in Belize could embroil the country in the Central American conflict. He said he would like a statement from Washington that it would not tolerate any incursions into Belizean territory.

British soldiers have guaranteed Belizean independence since it gained its independence from the UK in 1981. Guatemala has a long-standing claim to most of Belize's territory and has in the past threatened to invade the country. Esquivel said that his government was seeking even a private commitment from Britain not to withdraw its garrison. This has not yet happened, but the prime minister said the Belizean Government was heartened by recent discussions in London between its foreign minister and British Government officials on the matter. We know, however, that they will do nothing about removing the garrison, he said.

Despite his intention not to budge from the previous adminstration's position of not ceding Belizean territory to Guatemala, Esquivel who came to office after an election victory last December, said his government was approaching discussions with its neighbour on the basis of recognising that country's legitimate concerns -- access to the Caribbean Sea and concern over possible Cuban infiltration through our territory.

The new Belize Government, Guatemala, and Britain had a first round of discussions in New York on February 12, and these are to continue. Prime Minister Esquivel believed that the change of government in Belmopan and imminent changes in Guatemala with the military handing over to a civilian adminstration will help the process.

COSTA RICA

MONGE TO MEET LEADERS AT URUGUAYAN INAUGURATION

PA260400 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] San Jose, 25 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge left today at 1940 local time (0130 GMT) [as received] for Panama, where he will make a technical stopover. Tomorrow he will leave Panama to go to Uruguay. According to an official spokesman, the president, who went to Panama on a regular Lineas Areas Salvadorenas flight, will travel to Argentina tomorrow and then continue on to Uruguay to attend the inauguration of Uruguayan President-elect Julio Maria Sanguinetti.

Monge is accompanied by Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Urbina Ortega; Education Minister Eugenio Rodriguez; Deputy Carlos Rivera of the governing National Liberation Party; Juan Rafael Rodriguez, Legislative Assembly leader of the Social Christian Unity Party; and his personal assistant, Giennina Tanzi.

In Uruguay the Costa Rican president will meet with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez, Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. He also plans to meet with Colombian President Belisario Betancur, Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, and Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero. Government sources have announced that at these meetings, Monge, a Social Democrat, will state his position on the Central American conflict and the Contadora Group.

INFORMER EXPLAINS ALLEGED SANDINIST SPY NETWORK

PA262142 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 19 Feb 85 p 6

[Text] The authorities are investigating the operation of a Sandinist espionage network in the San Carlos area in which both Costa Rican and foreign elements participate, receiving good pay for their information.

They also fear that certain people associated with the Nicaraguan regime are preparing a sabotage act against Radio Costa Rica. A witness who once worked for this organization has discussed its activities. Since he abandoned this activity a few weeks ago, he has been attacked by elements associated with the government in Managua who have even threatened to kill him if he discloses what he knows.

The individual in charge of the network are contantly moving between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. They have a wide variety of vehicles and use certain hotels in the area to meet with their informers. The system not only operates with the participation of Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans, but also Salvadorans, Guatemalans, and even Cuban Communists.

According to the witness interviewed, he worked for this organization for 3 months and managed to infiltrate the ranks of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), where he participated in an operation to kill one of the leading anti-Sandinist commanders. However, he explained, he grew fearful and told the truth, thus preventing the leader's death and helping to capture one of his companions who was about to infiltrate the organization. He added that it is very likely that the money the Sandinists obtain from their sales of weapons and even cocaine, a drug commonly used by the combatants, is being used to pay the informers. According to the witness, many people dedicate themselves to these espionage activities and receive very good pay.

Aggressions

As for the recent aggressions against him, the witness said that in the latest incident his captors forced him to get into one of their vehicles. He was taken to one of their operation centers, apparently located in a place known as San Martin. To keep him from learning the exact location of their base, he was blindfolded. Once inside the house, they beat him in order to frighten him and then threatened to kill him if he revealed what he knew about the Sandinists' activities in Costa Rica. Inside the house he saw a telephone, which they apparently used to contact their companions or superiors. There was also a radio and a map with an x marking a location he cannot remember. He added that his captors had high-caliber weapons in the vehicle they used.

Leaders

The witness also remembers the names or nicknames of some of the people who direct the Sandinist espionage network in the Ciudad Quesada area. For instance, he mentioned a Nicaraguan called Henry Hernandez who meets his informers in different hotels; Felix Ortuno, "Castillito," "Travolta," "El Tigre," Jorge Rojas, Carlos Luis Ortega, and Fernando Orchoa, among others. According to him, this group includes both Costa Ricans and Nicaraguans. In the case of the Cubans, he says he does not remember their names because their last names are very difficult.

They travel in two Toyotas: one blue and one white. He explained that the contacts arrive in Costa Rican territory by boat via the San Juan River. Thanks to their connections in the region, they later travel on horseback to the places where they keep their vehicles, which they use from that point on. According to the witness, even some Cubans travel from San Jose to Ciudad Quesada to meet with those responsible for the espionage network.

Radio Costa Rica

The witness added that the Sandinists are quite irritated over the installation of Radio Costa Rica in the San Carlos area. According to him, the threats against him have increased because he has been seen speaking with several individuals associated with the station. He said it is very possible that preparations for an attack against the station are under way, as several persons associated with the regime in Managua have even been buying land near the area where the station is located.

His Beginnings

According to the witness, several individuals arrived last year at the place he was working and offered him a lot of money to collaborate with them. He remembers that two Cubans, two Nicaraguans, and two Costa Ricans were in charge of the operation. He was first paid 10,000 colones, a sum which was later raised to 20,000 colones.

According to him, he received military training on Nicaraguan territory. He was with the Sandinists in Nueva Guinea and El Castillo. He even had the chance to see them down an ARDE plane on Chamorrito Hill. The anti-Sandinist aircraft overflew the area three times before it was hit by a Soviet-made rocket fired by a Nicaraguan soldier, he said.

The System

As for how the Sandinists in charge of the espionage network and other actions enter Nicaraguan territory, he explained that they travel by boat on the river, then enter Costa Rican territory on horseback, and later use four-wheel-drive vehicles equipped for use on any type of road. According to him, the Sandinists are aided by a farmer whose last name is Miranda.

He said that they arrive in Ciudad Quesada about every 15 or 22 days to meet with their informers. He asserted that these meetings began in September 1984. Basically, he explained, the spies must identify both the anti-Sandinist commanders and those who help or collaborate with them.

Finally, the witness asked the Costa Rican Government to pay special attention to this issue in order to curb the spies' activities, expressing the hope that if his life is endangered, he will receive the cooperation he seeks from the Civil Guard and the rural police.

EL SALVADOR

SUGARCANE TRANSPORTERS WORKING; TRAFFIC FLOWING

PA260435 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 24 Feb 85 pp 3, 11

[Text] As a result of the strict surveillance that the Army maintains using air and land forces, approximately 50 percent of normal traffic was back on the country's roads and streets yesterday.

Traffic was reported as flowing in San Vicente on the Pan-American Highway. Traffic is also flowing on the street to Zacatecoluca and on other parallel streets. Sugarcane transporters have renewed operations and many trucks were waiting at the Jiboa sugar mill to unload.

The drivers say that they are willing to continue working if they have the necessary guarantees. Yesterday terrorists machine-gunned two trucks, one in La Joya Canton and the other in Achichilco. The terrorists also blocked roads with vehicles that had their tires perforated with bullets.

The drivers said that until they receive the guarantees, they will work only until 1700.

At midnight on Thursday terrorists downed several electricity poles in San Cayetano Instepeque, San Vicente Department. As a result, there was a lengthy blackout in San Vicente. Service was not restored until 1400 yesterday.

In San Salvador there was much patrolling to prevent terrorist actions, which have increased in recent days. Last Tuesday's truck carrying policemen was ambushed and two agents died.

TREASURY POLICE TO BEGIN CIVIC PLAN FOR YOUTH

PA260246 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 23 Feb 85 p 2

[Excerpt] Beginning this month, the General Directorate and all members of the Treasury Police will implement a plan to restore civic and moral values and seek rapprochement with the nation's teachers and students. The plan will be implemented through a program called tha "Patriotic Youth Movement," according to an announcement made yesterday by Colonels Reinaldo Golcher and Natividad Jesus Caceres, director and deputy director, respectively, of the Treasury Police.

These two officials met with directors and professors of many schools in the north-eastern sector of San Salvador and nearby towns such as Ciudad Delgado and Soyapango that are under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Police.

Col Golcher thanked the teachers for attending and explained that the purpose of the program will be to coordinate work and build the proper relationship between teachers and the security crops, especially the Treasury Police, to guide the young people along the proper path to being good Salvadorans.

Col Caceres told the teachers that the Patriotic Youth Movement is not politically motivated and is not intended to militarize the schools. He said that the movement will be aimed exclusively at restoring values that young people have lost. There are two phases to the program:

1. Creation of awareness among students and young people in general regarding civic and moral values, based on the concepts of the fatherland and people which implicitly include the concept of the family.

2. Directing young people toward cultural, scientific, and sports activities for educational purposes by organizing youth brigades and facilitating social events, excursions, and so forth. Later, other security corps will join the movement.

Col Caceres told the teachers that the plan is supported by the Education Ministry, which will be cooperating. Education Minister Alberto Buendia Florez, who was present at yesterday's meeting, confirmed this support. Col Caceres also spoke about the "trust plan," which his institution has been implementing with good results since last year. This plan is intended to establish relationships with families in the same area.

NICARAGUA

TIRADO CRITICIZES U.S.; URGES WORKERS TO JOINT MPS

PA262251 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] One of the objectives of the revolutionary government is to hold negotiations to prevent direct aggression and thus spare Nicaragua from devastation. This was said by Victor Tirado Lopez, commander of the revolution, at a workers meeting to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Camilo Ortega Saavedra, apostle of Sandinist unity, and to mark the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist People's Militias [MPS]. During the meeting held at the headquarters of the Sandinist Central Organization of Workers, Tirado Lopez, quoting U.S. newsmen, criticized the U.S. Government for unilaterally canceling the dialogue with Nicaragua in Manzanillo, Mexico; for disregarding the ruling handed down by the International Court of Justice in The Hague; and for sabotaging the Contadora Group's efforts. Regarding the U.S. Government's intention to force Nicaragua to unconditionally surrender or face direct intervention Tirado Lopez stressed to the workers the role they must play and advised them to join the MPS to obtain military training.

He also announced that in the next few days the Sandinist government will be launching a diplomatic campaign to try to ward off the threat of a direct U.S. intervention; at the same time it will continue improving all aspects of the country's defense. Tirado Lopez insisted that the workers' first move should be to join the MPS to defend their revolutionary government, because Nicaragua is being seriously threatened by an imperialist invasion.

ORTEGA HOLDS 'FRANK' MEETING WITH U.S. BISHOPS

PA262226 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] President Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra has characterized his meeting with a delegation of bishops from the U.S. Episcopal Conference as frank and direct.

[Begin recording] We had a very frank and direct meeting and thoroughly discussed ways to confront and resolve problems. There is agreement on the fact that it is necessary to have peace and good relations between the church and government. That is what we want, and we must work and struggle to achieve it. We also want peace between the U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments. [end recording]

The archbishop of Chicago [as heard], John O'Connor, who heads the U.S. bishops delegation, has said that President Daniel Ortega would like to see the tense situation between the state and church resolved as soon as possible.

MISKITO DEPUTY ON MISURASATA-GOVERNMENT TALKS

PA261659 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] The Indian communities of the Atlantic coast urgently demand talks between the Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity [Misurasata] and the Nicaraguan Government to find a peaceful solution to the military problem they are facing, Hazel Lau, a Miskito National Assembly, deputy, stated today. She said that Brooklyn Rivera must define, once and for all, his position concerning the talks with the revolutionary government because during this time of suffering for the Indian people, there is no room for hesitation.

GOVERNMENT, OTHERS ON PRODUCTIVE SECTOR MEETING

Dialogue To Continue

PA261715 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Communique No 7 issued by the Directorate of Information and Press of the Presidency in Managua on 25 February]

[Text] The Directorate of Information and Press of the Presidency of the Republic announces to the Nicaraguan people that complying with the orders issued by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra to continue the dialogue with the productive sector, which began on 16 February, it has decided that:

1. Labor Minister Benedicto Meneses, representing the Presidency of the Republic, summons all the country's labor federations, which must be represented by delegations of three to five members, to a meeting.

2. At this meeting, they will discuss, among other topics, the problem of salaries and their scale, and the high cost of living. This meeting and its agreements will be reported to the president of the Republic.

In the next few days, we will announce other sectorial meetings.

PSN Seeks Better Conditions

PA261657 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Feb 85 p 12

[Text] The political section of the Central Committee of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party [PSN] has issued a public statement to demand that future negotiations between representatives of the government and businessmen and workers organizations be based on national political agreements. The PSN stated that the government must abide by the agreements reached during the summit of political parties and that the National Assembly must be a democratic, respectable forum. The Socialists also expressed support for a national dialogue with the participation of all Nicaraguan sectors to seek agreements with national consensus. The dialogue must be held because the country's situation demands it, although the FSLN refuses to admit this, the statement notes.

The PSN demanded that the government discuss the economic measures being implemented to counter the current crisis with workers organizations.

The document also condemned U.S. intervention in Nicaraguan affairs and the military actions carried out by counterrevolutionaries with U.S. funds.

PLI Complains About FSLN's Role

PA261447 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Feb 85 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] Vigilio Godoy Reyes, president of the Nicaraguan Independent Liberal Party [PLI], has stated that "Nicaragua is currently experiencing the worst crisis in its history." Speaking after Enrique Espinosa Sotomayor, who presented a historical account of the PLI, Godoy Reyes addressed a gathering of prominent PLI members to commemorate "PLI national day." He said that for the past 6 years the country has been living in a state of agony, depending on foreign generosity in the line of $100 million and a supersonic aircraft donated by Libya's leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhadhafi or gifts from Iran's spiritual leader, the Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Commenting on the recent meeting of government leaders, cabinet members, and representatives of production sectors, Godoy Reyes said that it was disappointing, because although government leaders appeared well-disposed toward the dialogue, they rejected all the proposals made.

Godoy Reyes observed that the FSLN was clearly the group that called the shots at the meeting, accepting or rejecting ideas, and that it balked at explanations or criticism and refused to rectify unjust measures.

Despite all this, for a long time the PLI has been promoting a broad national dialogue with the participation of all sectors of Nicaraguan society and free of U.S., Soviet, Cuban, East German, or Bulgarian interference, the PLI's president said. We believe that the root of the evil is that the government is emulating policies upheld by other governments and has flagrantly violated the three principles of mixed economy, nonalignment, and political pluralism that it set forth, he added. Political parties have been isolated and restricted, the production sector has been the victim of unjust confiscations, and anarchy pervades the central government administration, he charged.

FDN 'STRATGIC COMMAND' STATEMENT ON STRUGGLE

PA260449 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 25 Feb 85 p 16, 69

[Text] Journalist Oscar Leonardo Montalvan, member of the Exiled Nicaraguan Journalists Association, said during a visit to this newspaper that "1985 will be the year of truth for Nicaragua and Central America, because if Nicaragua stays in the communists' hands and is not recovered, all Central America will be lost."

Calero Portocarrero, he added, is president and leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, armed forces; this is the largest and most important political-military organization fighting in northern, central, and southern Nicaragua against the Marxist-Leninist regime in Managua.

If we emerge victorious from our nationalist struggle, things will be different; we feel optimistic because there are 20,000 fighters in 9 departments. This war is still not publicized very much, but it is more cruel and harsh than the one in El Salvador.

He continued: We are fighting against sophisticated weapons, airplanes, and heat-seeking missiles. Now the government forces have Soviet-made MI-24 helicopters, but we also have sophisticated weapons.

We believe that the end is near and that we will emerge victorious. All the groups fighting against the current regime, except for Eden Pastora, met in Miami and are planning a joint offensive. Pastora is welcome at any time; the United States cut our aid and we have continued the struggle with economic support from the U.S. private sector and other countries.

It is deplorable that this has happened, because now is the time for struggle. He reiterated that there have been 15,00 dead during 3 years of war; the Sandinists are currently planning aggressions against Costa Rica and Honduras. We trust that the unification of our forces against the Sandinists and the next offensive will attain a victory os that we can start Nicaragua's reconstruction.

The text of the statement issued by regional commanders and task forces leaders reads as follows:

Strategic Command, 7 February 1985

The regional and task force commanders of the FDN met in the northern mountains of Nicaragua on 6 February 1985 to proclaim, on their behalf and that of the 15,000 men under their command, their firm loyalty to Commander in Chief Dr Adolfo Calero Portocarrero and Strategic Command Commander Enrique Bermudez Varela, who have revised the organization's structure and turned it into an effective and democratic force.

As members of the truly revolutionary movement, we are faithful witness of the sacrifices and struggle of our people to achieve freedom for our homeland, Nicaragua. Therefore, on behalf of the 15,000 who join force every time a rifle is fired by a commando member, we hereby counter certain antipatriotic and sectarian campaigns being carried out by people who lack the courage to fight for freedom in any way and who aim to gain the favor of the Sandinist regime's goals. Let those who organize these campaigns mark our words: We are not ready to become instruments of their political ambitions, one of the reasons why Nicaragua is immersed in a fratricidal war.

We hope to live in a homeland with dignity, where people may occupy the posts that they deserve due to their knowledge and a loyalty to Nicaragua.

Thus, we proclaim our firm decision to continue the struggle, our faith in God, and the unity of the FDN fighters, until the final victory.

[Signed] FDN

FDN SPOKESMAN MONTALVAN CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT

PA222000 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Interview with Oscar Leonardo Montalvan, spokesman for the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, and member of the Nicaraguan Journalists Association in Exile, by unidentified reporter; date, place not given -- live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] What is your opinion regarding the current situation in Nicaragua? Do you think it will improve with Mr Ortega's new government?

[Montalvan] As FDN spokesman, I want to clarify something and I must add that I feel no shame in saying the following: I believe that the situation has not changed since Mr Daniel Ortega took over. We call him a (?bewitched) president. Everyone knows and is convinced that he is president as the result of an electoral force, a dictatorial and unilateral plebiscite in which the people's will was not voiced.

We all well know that the well-defined political parties were left out of that sophisticated and false electoral process; we know well that no opposition candidates participated because those that claimed to be so were actually part of Sandinist controlled peripheral organizations.

I would say that there was a group that could have played a more liberal role and that was the Liberal Party. However, it is a very small group and not very representative of the Nicaraguan people. Therefore, there was no change. There was no election but a change of position. In other words, there was no takeover, but a change of position.

We decent and honest Nicaraguans who believe in the most important bases of all free societies -- love for the homeland, liberty, peace, and our work; respect for the church, our customs and traditions; freedom of speech, freedom of religion, and freedom to join labor unions -- cannot accept Daniel Ortega as our president. As Mr Shultz said, he belongs to the ranks of the undersirables.

I would like to say that the 15,000-man FDN army, its support organizations such as peasant, labor, and student groups, and its ethnic organizations such as the Miskitos, Sumus, and Ramas also do not recognize Mr Daniel Ortega as their president. We consider him an adventurer.

I recently wrote an article, which has been published in various Central American media and, I think, also in the United States, entitled "From Terrorist to President." He is a terrorist. He is not a good man. He is temporarily president of my country, but we all know how he achieved that: through the help of Nicaraguan Bolsheviks, the Communists in Havana and the Kremlin, and international terrorists such as Al-Qadhdhafi, Ayatollah Khomeni, and others, as well as [words indistinct] and other similar organizations such as the Red Brigades, and so on.

To acknowledge Daniel Ortega as the president of the Republic of Nicaragua is to acknowledge the right of force over the force of right; to accept this would constitute approval of violence over dialogue, violation of liberty over liberty; it would mean approval or legitimization of the persecution of the church, labor unions, [word indistinct], insults to the pope, the misery and hunger experienced in our country; we cannot accept that.

We cannot approve of a revolution that is not a revolution. I would call it a disturbance. A revolution is a series of events that transform a society. In sum, revolution means change. However, I want to say that not all changes mean revolution. There have been changes in Nicaragua, but there has not been a revolution, because I cannot agree with a so-called revolution based on terror. It is revolution lacking dignity, a false revolution; a carbon copy of that in Cuba; it is a Cuban test-tube baby nutured by Moscow. I cannot approve this or accept that this is a revolution. I understand that revolutions serve men and not the other way around.

This is terrorism organized and mounted by the USSR with a disproportionate arms buildup that has consolidated a regime that is worse than that of Somoza by 5,6,7, or 100 times. I would say that Somoza was a baby compared to the nine commanders. I should not be called a Somozist because I fought against Somoza; I personally suffered for opposing that regime. However, if I must be just and honest, as I always am, I must add that there is an unfathomable difference between the two regimes.

BULGARIAN MINISTER KARAMANEV ARRIVES IN HAVANA

FL260216 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Georgi Karamanev, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers and minister of production and trade for consumer goods, arrived at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport this afternoon. At the airport to receive him were Antonio Esquivel, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers; Manuel Vila Sosa, minister of domestic trade; and Manuel Millares, minister of light industry. Also present was Bulgarian Ambassador to Cuba Petur Marinkov.

MEXICO'S FOREIGN SECRETARY BEGINS VISIT

FL270157 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Feb 85

[Text] A few minutes ago, Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda arrived in Havana. He is beginning an official friendly visit to our country. Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca went to Jose Marti International Airport to welcome the distinguished visitor.

During his stay in Havana, Sepulveda will hold talks with high-level Cuban officials and visit places of historic and tourist interest.

RODRIGUEZ, CABRISAS MEET JAPANESE DELEGATION

FL261256 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has received the Japanese delegation headed by Rioichi Kawai, president of Komatsu Limited. The visiting delegation is attending the eighth joint meeting of the Cuban-Japanese economic conference in Havana.

Carlos Rafael gave the visitors comprehensive information on the Cuban economic situation and its perspectives, and his view of the international political context in which the Cuban economy functions.

Speaking on behalf of the Japanese delegation, Mr Kawai praised the information received during the friendly and cordial meeting with the Cuban vice president.

The joint meeting of the Cuban-Japanese economic conference is being held in Havana's Palace of Conventions with the participation of representatives of more than 50 industrial firms.

The Cuban delegation is headed by Ricardo Cabrisas, minister of foreign trade. At the inaugural session, Cabrisas spoke of the efforts of the Cuban Government and especially of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's efforts in the economic campaign for progress.

The Cuban minister said the campaign is especially important to the conservation of energy and to the goals of the policy to import capital goods and export sugar, coffee, and tobacco.

The eighth joint meeting of the Cuban-Japanese economic conference will end tomorrow with the signing of a protocol.

FRENCH LABOR LEADER KRASUKI RECEIVES DECORATION

FL252344 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Henri Krasuki, member of the Politburo of the French Communist Party and secretary general of the General Confederation of Workers, was awarded the Lazaro Pena Order, first grade, today at the protocol hall of the Central Orgnaization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC].

The decoration was presented by Roberto Veiga, alternate member of the politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba and CTC secretary general.

LEBANESE COMMUNIST NOTES EXPULSION OF U.S.

FL262334 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] On the occasion of the first anniversary of the expulsion of U.S. forces from Lebanese territory and of the suppression of the 17 May Agreement between Lebanon and Israel, under the auspices of the United States, Isma'i' Ibrahim, representative of the Lebanese Communist Party in Cuba, held a press conference at ALLAPSO Headquarters.

Ibrahim accused the United States of trying to continue its exploitation of the petroleum wealth in that area and of trying to make it a bastion against the Soviet Union.

COMMENTARY ASSESSES THATCHER'S U.S. VISIT

PA260427 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Feb 85

["World Events" commentary read by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has just confirmed in Washington, as if anyone ever doubted it, that she is the staunchest supporter of Ronald Reagan's policies. During her 48-hour official visit to the United States to mark the 200th anniversary of the reestablishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, the British Prime Minister stressed that the White House can count on her in any international matter, even though this may include taking measures that lead to increased tensions or endanger world peace.

In her speech to the joint session of Congress, the Iron Lady strongly defended the U.S. President's plans for the so-called space defense system, which amount to nothing more than an extension of the arms race into outer space.

It is highly significant that upon the British prime minister's arrival in Washington, and while commenting on the controversial space program, Reagan stated that the United States will not leave its allies standing in the rain, while it protects itself with a nuclear umbrella. Such a statement gives credence to comments by some observers that the Pentagon intends to take its "star wars" plan to Western Europe.

The statements of Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher on Great Britain's role throughout the world speak eloquently of Britain's unqualified backing for the aggressive U.S. policies in Central America, the Middle East, and other areas of conflict.

Analysts concur that from now on British prime minister will serve as the best envoy to overcome resistance of several U.S. NATO allies in Europe which have voiced their concern over the transfer of the "star wars" program to Europe.

Thatcher agreed with Washington's aggressive plans and policies and stated that she had been very disappointed by New Zealand's decision to refuse to allow U.S. war vessels carrying nuclear weapons or nuclear-powered to dock there. On that matter, she stressed that like the United States, Great Britain will refuse to tell any country beforehand what kind of weaponry British vessels are carrying. She added that she would be very disappointed if the Royal Navy was not able to visit New Zealand.

As Margaret Thatcher was expressing her support for Reagan's political decisions and was hailing the U.S. President's economic performance, the pound sterling, which is the British currency, reached its lowest level ever vis-a-vis the dollar. At a press conference at the end of her Washington visit, Margaret Thatcher admitted the Western economies' virtual impotence in curbing the dollar's sharp rise. On that matter, she said that there are no set formulas for dealing with this problem, adding that the only thing that could be done about it would be to reduce the U.S. budget deficit. However, she said that the results of such a measure are hard to predict.

The British head of state's brief visit to the United States helped to strengthen the Washington-London military alliance and to reaffirm Reagan's stance to the other NATO members.

COMMENTARY VIEWS U.S.-MEXICAN BORDER SITUATION

FL262246 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1254 GMT 26 Feb 85

[International commentary by (Daisy) Gomez and Lionel Nodal during "Revista de la Manana" program -- live]

[Gomez] Good morning. Today in this commentary we will discuss a topic which has caught the attention of international press agencies in the past few days about the present situation at border crossings between Mexico and the United States.

The U.S. press has been reporting on the humilating situation which mostly Mexican citizens trying to enter the United States have been subjected to. At the 42 border crossings along the 2,720-km border dividing Mexico from the United States, long lines of cars have formed, sometimes as long as 7 km, searching the cars many times can take as long as 6 hours. Can you imagine taking 6 hours to search a car?

The Mexican Government has told the inhabitants of the border areas that these searches are especially thorough and meticulous for Mexican citizens, and that formalities have gone much faster for U.S. citizens. Logically, this is one way the Reagan administration can humiliate the Mexicans. We must also add that no prior notice of the operation was given to the Mexican Government. The Mexican Foreign Secretariat sent a formal notification to the U.S. Department of State complaining about the situation and said that it was hurting the economy and tourism. It is believed that tourism from the United States to Mexico has decreased 75 percent.

There are also great economic consequences. There has been some $200 million in losses. I believe, Nodal, that you have some facts on this.

[Nodal] I think (Daisy) that we must remember that this operation, called "Operation Interception," started in mid-February for the purpose of, or using as a pretext the disppearance of Drug Enforcement Administration [DEA] agent Enrique Camarena Salazar, around which U.S. officials have formed a propaganda campaign on his disappearance, attributing his disappearance to groups within the so-called Mexican drug trafficking mafia who operate in the border areas.

This attribution or blame which has fallen on Mafia elements, has served as a pretext, and we must describe it this way, so the U.S. Government can impose these severe restrictive measures on passage between the two countries.

The Mexican-U.S. border area is an open area; under normal conditions thousands of people daily cross the border in both directions and this has become part of the area's economy. The U.S. Government used the kidnapping of this person as a pretext to start a series of measures, which really go much further than a mere search for this person or for those thought to be implicated in the kidnapping, to hurt and punish the Mexican economy.

A few days ago, it was said that the losses in tourism reached some $200 million. Along with the campaign surrounding the disappearance of a U.S. agent, another campaign has been put into effect, that of defaming Mexico as a nation. For example in the city of Guadalajara, there have been reports on crime and problems U.S. tourists could be faced with, and all this obviously has hurt tourism which is one of Mexico's main revenue sources, apart from its petroleum revenues.

I think that it is good that we underscore this during our commentary.

[Gomez] I would like to comment on what you said a little while ago on the pretext used to start this campaign: the disappearance of the DEA agent. This official, Enrique Camarena Salazar, is of Mexican origin, but took U.S. citizenship. He has an interesting background. He was in the Marine Corps, and as a Green Beret, he participated as an aggressor in the Vietnam war. So you can see he is a faithful representative of the U.S. repressive forces.

Another interesting aspect you brought up was the use of this incident as a pretext to develop a policy to pressure the Mexican Government.

Let's look at the following contradictions: The customs chief in San Ysidro, California, on talking about why these measures were implemented said, we are trying to find 20 drug traffickers who kidnapped a U.S. secret agent. On the other hand, his counterpart, another customs chief in Hidalgo, Texas, said that "Operation Interception" is being conducted in search of explosives to be used in terrorist acts against the United States. Therefore, they are detaining people, annoying them, and searching them, and they definitely do not know what they are looking for, because one says one thing and the other says something else.

[Nodal] I would like to explain (Daisy), that Mexican Government officials announced today that their police forces detained two persons [as heard] thought to be responsible or implicated in the kidnapping of Camarena. This factor could lessen the restrictions which continue to be in effect, measures vigorously in effect in spite of Mexico's President Miguel de la Madrid telephoning Reagan on this situation being unjustified and out of proportion with the kidnapping of a particular agent.

The Mexicans have even noted the number of deaths their police and investigative departments have suffered practically every day in the fight against drug trafficking.

I think this allows us to pass to the basic causes of the situation which today exists on the Mexican-U.S. border.

[Gomez] I think there is something which greatly exemplifies this situation. It seems to me that the U.S. Government has accused the Mexican Government of not really working in the fight against drug trafficking and in the search for Camarena. But, Mexico's secretary of justice gave some details to the press in the last few days which I believe are very eloquent.

There are several and I will read them: For example, in 1983 the government destroyed 2,728 marijuana plants and in 1984, destroyed 3,787 plants. It seized 625 marijuana seeds [as heard] in 1983, which increased to 11,053 in 1984. There were 331 cocaine confiscations, and 443 in 1984. This shows the work by Mexican officials and destroys this argument by the United States. But, Nodal, you referred to the matter of the real causes, and we are sure that the real causes are due to the Mexican Government's foreign policy, a foreign policy which has dignity, a policy in defense of peace as President De la Madrid recently reiterated at the mini-summit in New Delhi; a policy in defense of the people's struggle for liberation and in defense of self-determination. The United States has been trying to pressure the Mexican Government in every way possible to change this policy, but De la Madrid has said that Mexico will maintain its honor in its foreign policy. Our time is up now. Thank you.

LEZCANO PRESIDES OVER PORT WORKERS MEETING

FL262320 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] With the hope of resolving their own problems, Havana port workers have met with the party's provincial committee headed by its First Secretary Jorge Lezcano. Three main topics were discussed: work discipline and efficiency, the repair and use of port technology, and the organization and expedition of shipments.

LEADERS FOCUS ON POLITICAL ISSUES AT SUMMIT

FL261242 Bridgetown CANA in English 0124 GMT 26 Feb 85

[By Paget Defreitas]

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 25 CANA -- Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his English-speaking Caribbean counterparts spent the first day of their two-day summit here discussing political issues and emerged with a consensus that there has been a consolidation of moderate political forces in the region. The view is that we have reached the stage of possible consolidation of political and ideological security in the region, Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga told journalists tonight.

Most observers here had expected the overwhelming focus of the summit would have been economic and were taken aback by Seaga's pronouncement. The political considerations took all of the first day. But, Seaga said that the issues were dealt because they were on the agenda and had been disposed of in the border set down. Tomorrow we will deal with the economic issues, Seaga said.

The main topic of tomorrow's economic aspect of the meeting will be discussion on Seaga's proposed Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) type one-way free trade arrangement Caribbean leaders have asked Mulroney to institute.

At today's session, Antigua and Barbuda's Deputy Prime Minister Lester Bird, Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams, Grenada's Hubert Blaize and the Commonwealth secretary general made presentations on global and regional issues.

Seaga said the leaders focussed the question of where additiional resources could be found to improve financial transfer from countries of the North to the South. There was agreement, the Jamaican prime minister said, that such resources could be released if there was a reduction of expenditure and arms and such funds directed to the developing world.

Noting the particular problem of the middle level countries, Seaga said the leaders expressed concern that they were being graduated prematurely from the International Development Association (IDA) -- the soft loan window of the World Bank -- and were left suspended halfway up the ladder. These countries were forced to seek non-concessional and commercial funds, Seaga said.

On the question of security in the region, Seaga said the concern was not with military security, but political and ideological security.

The electorate had settled the issue with a preference for moderate positions by rejecting radical ideologies and the emergent commonality of interests had made it easier for the Caribbean to act together in social and economic development of the region, Seaga said. But, he stressed that this did not preclude Caribbean peoples in the future of making choices for other than conservative governments. If the people in the region decided on a different tupe of government they would be free to do so, Seaga said.

He also stressed that there was a congruence of views between Mulroney and his Caribbean counterparts adding. Mulroney has fitted very well into the overall perspective which the Caribbean and Canadian relationships have been conducted for a period of time. On our part there is no uneasiness with Mulroney's outlook concerning the Commonwealth Caribbean, the prime minister said.

UK TO BUILD COAST GUARD SHORE FACILITIES

FL202050 Bridgetown CANA in English 1913 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 20, CANA -- Two consultants from Britain today started visiting six Caribbean islands to appraise plans for the construction of coast guard shore facilities planned under a British aid programme, a statement from the British High Commission said.

The consultants, John Berry and Captain H.E. Howard of Bertlin and Partners, the British consulting engineers selected for this project, will be accompanied on their visits by Commander David Ford, naval adviser at the British High Commission, Bridgetown, and Brian Jackson, engineering adviser at the British Development Division.

The islands of Grenada, St Vincent, St Lucia, Dominica, St Kitts, and Antigua are to get coast guard facilities under a British Government grant of 1.2 million pounds sterling announced late last year.

BARBADOS

OPPOSITION LEADER BARROW REFUSES TO RESIGN

FL261546 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] The leader of the opposition party in Barbados' Parliament has rejected calls that he step down. Sixty-five-year-old former Prime Minister Errol Barrow says he will lead his party in the next general election. Some in the Democratic Labor Party have voiced the opinion that the party would do better at the polls if it were lead by a younger and more energetic person. Mr Barrow says he feels well and points to the fact that he is younger than U.S. President Ronald Reagan, who was recently sworn in for a second term. The former prime minister said that in 1971 he wanted to leave politics but members of his party persuaded him not to do so.

GRENADA

GOVERNMENT TAKING STEPS TO RETURN CUBAN PLANE

FL261214 Bridgetown CANA in English 1852 GMT 23 Feb 85

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Feb 23, CANA -- Grenada is taking steps to return to Havana a Cubana Airlines plane abandoned here in the wake of the October 1983 U.S.-led invasion of the island, Legal Affairs Minister Ben Jones said here today. He said the damaged turbo prop passenger aircraft, grounded on the tarmac of the out-of-use Pearls Airport, was among items here being claimed by Cuba.

St George's downgraded its diplomatic relations with Havana after the invasion, which routed a pro-Moscow Marxist military junta that had seized power in a bloody uprising.

Jones said his two month old government felt the plane could be returned to Havana, and added, we are taking steps to achieve this...and we believe that before too long the matter will be resolved.

Before leaving office last December, Grenada's interim government had said negotiations were underway for a Canadian company to dismantle the airliner and ship it to Mexico for onward delivery to Havana.

Cuba has taken the Grenada Government to court here to secure the return of construction equipment used to help build the island's international airport officially opened last October.

During the tenure of the leftist People's Revolutionary Government (PRG), the Cubans had provided substantial assistance with the construction of the multi-million dollar project, including trucks, tractors, and a large work force.

The government is looking at the claim to see if there is any merit in it, Jones told CANA.

Under the interim government which administered Grenada pending last December's general elections, the Cuban charge d'affairs here Gaston Diaz was told that from an investigation carried out by the local legal department the equipment was found to be this country's property.

The interim government said then that the investigation revealed that the equipment was paid for by the Government of Grenada, and that the money used to pay for their insurance, among other things, was provided by Grenada and not Cuba.

Grenada had been Cuba's closest ally in the Eastern Caribbean during the rule of the PRG. But with the ousting of the military junta, the interim administrators here expelled all Havana's diplomats except Diaz.

GOVERNMENT MAY LEASE STATE-OWNED FARMS

FL261530 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Excerpt] A number of state farms set up by the previous Grenadian Government to create jobs in rural areas may be leased to individual farmers. Grenada's Agriculture Minister George Brizan said yesterday the farms could be leased to people working them and small farmers in the area who had no land of their own. He added that the land might be leased with an option to buy.

The farms program, which is run by the Grenada Farms Corporation, was established under the People's Revolutionary Government of slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop to provide jobs for unemployed youths.

TRIAL OF 19 CHARGED WITH KILLING BISHOP POSTPONED

FL261518 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 26 Feb 85

[Text] The trial of 19 former Grenadian officials charged with murdering former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and others in 1983 is again being postponed. Proceedings were put off for another month in the Grenadian Court of Appeals because one of three judges is not in the country.

The court is to hear an appeal by the 19 defendents, who claim the court does not have jurisdiction in the case. The formal trial cannot begin until the appeal is ruled on.

JAMAICA

SEAGA PLANS MORE DIALOGUE WITH TRADE UNIONS

FL222206 Bridgetown CANA in English 2148 GMT 22 Feb 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 22, CANA -- Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga, whose austerity programme has resulted in the retrenchment of thousands of public sector workers, last night conceded he had not talked enough with organised labour here.

But Seaga said this was not a slight for trade unions because there are people in his administration close to the movement, including Deputy Prime Minister Hugh Shearer, the president-on-leave of the powerful Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU).

I think you are right -- in that I have not given as much attention as I ought to have given to consultation with the working class movement, Seaga said on television in answer to a question by Professor Rex Nettleford, head of the Trade Union Development Institute at the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies [UWI] here.

Speaking during the discussion with two other UWI academics, the prime minister indicated an intention to have more dialogue with them in the future.

Trade unions, which have historically played important roles in the political and decision-making process in Jamaica, have often complained of being left out by Seaga, the only Jamaican leader who has not come through the ranks of, or had close contacts with, a trade union.

BITU is linked to Seaga's centre-right Jamaica Labour party (JLP), both founded by national hero and Jamaica's first prime minister, Sir Alexander Bustamante.

The other powerful labour organisation, the National Workers Union (NWU), is aligned to Michael Manley's People's National Party (PNP).

Seaga said Shearer maintained contacts with unions, which had freed him to do other things.

The prime minister noted, however, that he did have a morning of consultation with unions at the time of the last IMF agreement on its implications. The agreement had not changed over the year, Seaga said.

When we move into structuring the next agreement, we will want to further consult, he said.

Last November, five top trade unions sent a joint letter to Seaga calling for a shift in his policies, which they said were causing hardships and the loss of jobs to workers throughout the economy.

The BITU later sent a letter to the prime minister, milder in tone, but expressing the same concerns.

Seaga told his interviewers that, apart from formal consultations with the trade unions, he would have informal sessions with their leaders similar to discussions he has been having with varying sectors of the society.

EFFECTS OF FALLING BRITISH POUND DISCUSSED

FL231550 Bridgetown CANA in English 1917 GMT 22 Feb 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 22, CANA -- Guyanese experts are discussing the effects of the downward spiral of the British pound sterling on the country's financially-strapped economy, a government spokesman said here today.

The pound which was worth 2.4 U.S. dollars four years ago, dropped to a record low of 1.072 dollars in London today.

An official of the State Planning Commission said the industry which is expected to be the worst hit by the continued decline of the pound is sugar, the number two foreign exchange earner.

Guyana will supply its quota (of sugar) to the European Economic Community, EEC, and continue to receive the same prices in pound sterling, the official said.

He said when payment is coverted into Guyana and U.S. dollars, this country will receive less in these currencies.

GDR DELEGATION TO ARRIVE FOR TALKS ON TRADE

FL252356 Bridgetown CANA in English 1937 GMT 24 Feb 85

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 24, CANA -- A three-man government delegation from the German Democratic Republic (East Germany) is due in Guyana tonight for discussions with officials. A Guyana Government spokesman said the discussions between members of the East German-Guyana joint commission would start tomorrow.

The German delegation will be led by Klaus Haertig, director general in the Ministry of Foreign Trade. The Guyana team to the talks will be led by head of the department of international economic co-operation, Donald Abrams.

The discussions are expected to centre on the intensification of trade and economic relations.

It is expected that a new trade protocol governing trade relations between the two countries will be signed at the end of the discussions, the spokesman said.

The two sides will also explore the possibility of joint ventures in the agriculture and mining sectors, the spokesman added.

In the area of trade, attempts will be made to increase non-traditional products while at the same time it is proposed that Guyana will import from the GDR essential inputs of intermediate and capital goods to accelerate economic performance in our export sector.

Also listed for discussions are projects of special interest to the state-run Guyana Pharmaceutical Corporation and the Guyana Rice Board, as well as matters relating to educational and cultural cooperation between Guyana and the GDR.

The last meeting of the joint commission was held in Berlin in July 1983.

GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS ACTIONS AGAINST NETHERLANDS

FL261320 Bridgetown CANA in English 2110 GMT 23 Feb 85

[By Rickey Singh]

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Feb 23, CANA -- Suriname is moving to take the Netherlands to the World Court in The Hague for allegedly breaching a 1975 treaty committing the Dutch Government to providing this former colony with 1.8 billion Suriname guilders (one Sf: 59 cents U.S.) in aid over 15 years. This is one of three options currently being actively pursued, according to the leader of the Suriname revolution, Commander Desire Bouterse, in an interview here with CANA.

As the country officially begins celebration on the fifth anniversary of the revolutionary process that started with the Army's seizure of power on February 25, 1980, Commander Bouterse spoke of Dutch hostility and hypocrisy in relation to Holland's attitude towards Suriname. Going to the World Court with our case, said Bouterse, could be a year-long struggle. We are at present seeking the services of an international legal expert to help in the presentation of our position. All the basic work has been completed.

A second option, though not necessarily in this order, he said, would be to intensify the diplomatic pressures so that the rest of the world may know what the Dutch are up to. Bouterse disclosed as a third option pressures on Dutch commercial and economic interests here.

While the Dutch press continues to bombard us with daily negative broadcasts and spread the hostility of Holland, he said the Netherlands in 1984 invested around Sf150 million, largely in a joint venture with Suralco (bauxite-alumina corporation). For Bouterse, it is nothing but hypocrisy for Holland to cut off our aid entitlements under the pretext of human rights concerns, and at the same time consider it safe enough and in order to invest so significantly in Suriname. This is a vote of confidence in our revolutionary process, he declared. Bauxite accounts for some eighty per cent of Suriname's exports and the Dutch investment in this sector has, prior to independence, been tied up with the Billiton Company.

While it is not clear how the Dutch may react to renewed pressures from the Bouterse administration, it is evident that the government here badly needs to have that development aid flowing again from Holland. Having recently rejected an International Monetary Fund (IMF) package, because of the fund's stringent conditions, the Bouterse administration is faced with a serious cash flow problem in 1985. As part of a severe austerity programme, the government has reduced its expenditure by about Sf260 million for this year by cutting an original budget of Sf740 million to Sf480 million.

When this culturally diverse, polyglot Caribbean country in South America gained its independence from the Netherlands after some three centuries of Dutch colonialism, Holland signed a treaty to provide Suriname with Sf1.8 billion as grant aid for economic development. This aid was to flow to Paramaribo on a regular basis until 1990 under the terms of the treaty which provided for a joint monitoring mechanism by Holland and Suriname.

However, when Bouterse led the military overthrow of the civilian government of Prime Minister Henck Arron, the Dutch froze the development aid, with some two-thirds of the funds still to be disbursed. Suriname challenged, in official statements, the moral and legal basis of this action as the Dutch tied a resumption of aid to a return to traditional parliamentary democracy in Suriname.

After 15 prominent Surinamers were killed by the military in December 1982 in the midst of what the Bouterse administration had claimed to be a CIA-inspired destabilisation campaign, Holland further tightened its squeeze on the aid purse. It now made it clear that its aid programme under the 1975 treaty was linked to an improvement of the human rights situation here.

Commander Bouterse has decried this attitude by Holland as absurd and arrogant. He claims the freezing of the aid was a violation of the treaty and quite hypocritical of the Dutch when compared with the Netherlands' assistance to and relations with South Africa, Israel, and undemocratic governments in other parts of the world.

Since the 1982 tragedy that created a serious credibility gap between the people and the government, the administration has taken a number of initiatives to restore public confidence and to persuade international opinion about, as Commander Bouterse said, the genuine democratic structures we are seeking to establish and the real meaning of the Suriname revolution. Human rights delegations, including one from the U.S. Human Rights Commission, have visited the country to investigate the December tragedy and other areas of alleged human rights violations. Some of their criticisms have been broadcast.

The government has since created a 31-member non-elected assembly (parliament) comprising representatives of the labour movement (11), private sector (six), and the revolutionary leadership (14). This development has resulted from a comprehensive report from a think tank that examined the need for new democratic structures including fresh general elections, possibly within two years, under a new constitution.

At the last Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government summit, Suriname was granted observer status in a number of ministerial fora -- status that had previously been withheld because of expressed human rights concerns.

It is certainly not for the former coloniser of Suriname, the Dutch, which has created so many social and economic problems for the Surinamese people, said Bouterse, to dictate how we should run our affairs. The Dutch cannot use our system of government here to justify its breach of the aid treaty, he declared. We intend to expose this fully before the international community. We are not without friends.

Commander Bouterse, who appointed his fourth prime minister, Dr Wim Udenhout, a non-party university lecturer, a year ago this month, said that those who visit here without any preconceived notions would see how, with limited resources, we are developing Suriname with a new concept of what it means to be a Surinamer, a citizen with dignity. While relations with Cuba are still to be normalised following the disruption that coincided with the October 1983 U.S.-led military intervention in Grenada, Suriname is strengthening relations with, for example, Colombia, Brazil, the Soviet Union, Nicaragua, and France. And, according to Prime Minister Udenhout, Suriname greatly desires the closest possible relations with the countries of the Caribbean Community.

MEXICO

COTTON TO BE EXCHANGED FOR YUGOSLAV PRODUCTS

FL260054 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1951 GMT 25 Feb 85

[Text] Mexico City, 25 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico will buy 350 million pesos, which is over $1.5 million, worth of medicine and chemical products from Yugoslavia. Mexico will pay for these products with cotton in an attempt to save foreign currency through the barter system.

Making that announcement, the director of the Union of Cotton Producers of the Mexican Republic (Unparm), Hector Fernandez Aguirre, said the barter arrangement was discussed during President Miguel de la Madrid's recent trip to Yugoslavia. He added that to pay for the first shipment of chemical goods, which has already been received, Mexico will send Yugoslavia 5,000 bales of cotton and so will not have to spend any dollars. The Under Secretariat of Agriculture and Operation in the Agricultural Secretariat also stated that it intends to expand the foreign market for cotton, not as a barter good, but selling it for dollars.

PANAMA

GUATEMALA'S MEJIA VICTORES MEETS WITH GEN NORIEGA

PA261905 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 26 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] In Panama, Guatemalan Head of State General Oscar Mejia Victores and General Manuel Antonio Noriega, chief of the Panamanian Defense Forces, reviewed Central America's political situation. Mejia Victores made a technical stopover here in Panama en route to South America, where he will visit several countries. During his short stay in Panama, the two generals also discussed various aspects of the Guatemalan Government's current security and development projects. Gen Mejia Victores, who arrived with Colonel Pablo Nuila Hub, chief of the general staff, expressed his interest in increasing the number of development areas in his country and fulfilling the electoral process that will culminate with general elections on 27 October.

The Guatemalan head of state will attend the inaugural ceremony of new Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti on 1 March. According to Mejia Victores' agenda, in the next few days he will also visit Ecuador and Colombia to meet with the presidents of those two countries, Leon Febres Cordero and Belisario Betancur, respectively. Gen Mejia Victores is accompanied by his wife, Aura Rosal de Mejia, Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade, Col Nuila Hub, and Protocol Director Raul Rivera.

ENVOY SIGNS UN CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE

PA261702 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 25 Feb 85 p 7

[Text] Panama has officially signed the convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatments or punishments. Leonardo Kam, Panamanian ambassador to the United Nations, signed the important document on the instructions of and with full powers received from Foreign Minister Fernando Cardoze Fabrega. With the signing of this convention, which has been under discussion since 1975 when it was presented to the United Nations, the Panamanian Government expresses its firm and unyielding willingness to respect human rights and the high value that it gives to the integrity of man.